REMARKS

This is a full and timely response to the outstanding non-final Office Action mailed May 17, 2005. In particular, Applicants have amended claim 8 to correct a typographical error. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration and allowance of the application and presently pending claims are respectfully requested.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102

The Office Action indicates that claims 1 – 2, 5 – 14 and 21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by *Oran*. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

In this regard, Applicants respectfully assert that the rejections are deficient and/or improper for several reasons. First, page 2 of the Office Action indicates that, with respect to claims 1 and 8, *Oran* teaches "at least one of: moving a cursor. . ." However, neither of Applicants claims 1 nor 8 recites the limitation "at least one of:" as indicated in the Office Action. Applicants respectfully assert that the pending claims may have been examined as if in a form prior to substantive amendment. If this is indeed the case, Applicants respectfully request that a subsequently issued Office Action specifically consider the language particularly recited in Applicants' pending claims.

Second, it appears that the Office Action has improperly disregarded Applicants' use of antecedent terms that are unambiguously recited in the pending claims. In particular, Applicants respectfully assert that the Office Action apparently acknowledges that the pending claims recite three distinct manners for displaying information with respect to a particular item. However, the Office Action relies on different items to show that the three distinct manners are taught by *Oran*. Clearly, such attribution is improper, in that Applicants have recited limitations with respect to one such "item."

In this regard, Applicants' claim 1 recites:

> 1. A method for controlling the presentation of a hierarchical arrangement of items in a window of a graphical user interface, at least one of the items having one or more related sub-items, the method comprising:
>
> *displaying the one or more of the related sub-items <u>of one of the</u>*
> *<u>items</u> in response to*:
>
> > *moving of a cursor over <u>the one of the items</u> and*
> > *actuating an input button of a mouse input device as the*
> > cursor is *located over <u>the one of the items</u>*; and
> >
> > > *actuating a virtual button associated with <u>the one of</u>*
> > > *<u>the items</u>*;
> >
> > *determining when the cursor is moved over <u>the one of the items</u>*; and
> > *in response thereto, displaying a first preview window comprising the*
> *one or more related sub-items*.

(Emphasis added).

Applicants respectfully assert that *Oran* is legally deficient for the purpose of

anticipating claim 1, because at least the features/limitations recited above in claim 1 are not

taught or otherwise disclosed by *Oran*. Specifically, claim 1 recites three distinct manners in

which the sub-items of an item can be displayed. That is, 1) in response to moving of a

cursor over the one of the items and actuating an input button of a mouse input device as the

cursor is located over the one of the items; 2) actuating a virtual button associated with the

one of the items; and 3) determining when the cursor is moved over the one of the items; and

in response thereto, displaying a first preview window comprising the one or more related

sub-items.

Notably, the Office Action indicates that, with respect to *Oran*, moving the cursor

over the "start menu button" and actuating the mouse displays related sub-items, and that

actuating a virtual button associated with the "start menu button" displays related sub-items.

However, the Office Action further indicates that Applicants' recited limitations of

"determining when the cursor is moved over the one of the items; and in response thereto,

displaying a first preview window comprising the one or more related sub-items" is met by

moving the cursor over the "Programs" item. Applicants respectfully assert that such an

interpretation of the claim language is improper.

In particular, Applicants' "determining" limitation clearly and unambiguously refers

to "the one of the items," not any item. Thus, in keeping with the example presented in the

Office Action, the "determining" limitation should be shown with respect to the "start menu

button." However, this was not done because this functionality, which is recited in

Applicants' claim 1, is not taught or otherwise disclosed by *Oran*. Moreover, Applicants

respectfully assert that none of the cited references teach or otherwise disclose at least this

combination of features. Therefore, Applicants respectfully assert that claim 1 is in condition

for allowance. Since claims 2 and 5 - 7 incorporate all the features/limitations of claim 1,

Applicants respectfully assert that these claims also are in condition for allowance.

With respect to claim 8, that claim recites:

> 8.   A system for controlling the presentation of a hierarchical arrangement of items in a window of a graphical user interface, at least one of the items having one or more related sub-items, the system comprising:
> logic configured to:
> > *display the one or more of the related sub-items of one of the items in response to*:
> > > *moving of a cursor over the one of the items and actuating an input button* of a mouse input device as the cursor is *located over the one of the items*, and
> > > *actuating a virtual button associated with the one of the items*;
> > > *determine when a cursor is moved over the one of the items*;
> and
> > > in response thereto, display a first preview window comprising the one or more related sub-items;
> a memory comprising an application supporting a graphical user interface and in which the logic is stored;
> a display device configured to support the graphical user interface;
> a cursor manipulation device configured to cooperate with the application and for manipulating the cursor with respect to the graphical user interface; and
> a processing device configured to implement the logic and the application.

(Emphasis added).

Applicants respectfully assert that *Oran* is legally deficient for the purpose of anticipating claim 8, because at least the features/limitations recited above in claim 8 are not taught or otherwise disclosed by *Oran*. Specifically, claim 8 recites logic configured to display the sub-items of an item in three distinct manners. That is, 1) in response to moving of a cursor over the one of the items and actuating an input button of a mouse input device as the cursor is located over the one of the items; 2) actuating a virtual button associated with the one of the items; and 3) determining when the cursor is moved over the one of the items; and in response thereto, displaying a first preview window comprising the one or more related sub-items.

Notably, the Office Action indicates that, with respect to *Oran*, moving the cursor over the "start menu button" and actuating the mouse displays related sub-items, and that actuating a virtual button associated with the "start menu button" displays related sub-items. However, the Office Action further indicates that Applicants' recited limitations of "determining when the cursor is moved over the one of the items; and in response thereto, displaying a first preview window comprising the one or more related sub-items" is met by moving the cursor over the "Programs" item. Applicants respectfully assert that such an interpretation of the claim language is improper.

In particular, Applicants' "determining" limitation clearly and unambiguously refers to "the one of the items," not any item. Thus, in keeping with the example presented in the Office Action, the "determining" limitation should be shown with respect to the "start menu button." However, this was not done because this functionality, which is recited in Applicants' claim 8, is not taught or otherwise disclosed by *Oran*. Moreover, Applicants respectfully assert that none of the cited references teach or otherwise disclose at least this combination of features. Therefore, Applicants respectfully assert that claim 8 is in condition

for allowance. Since claims 9 - 14 incorporate all the features/limitations of claim 8, Applicants respectfully assert that these claims also are in condition for allowance.

With respect to claim 21, that claim recites:

> 21.   A method for controlling the presentation of a hierarchical arrangement of items in a tree-view control window of a graphical user interface, at least one of the items having a related sub-item, the method comprising:
> displaying the related sub-item of the one of the items of the tree-view control window in response to:
>> 1) *actuating an input button of a mouse input device as a cursor is located over <u>the one of the items</u>*; and
>> 2) *actuating a virtual button associated with <u>the one of the items</u>*;
> the method further comprising:
> *displaying a first preview window comprising the related sub-item in response to determining that the cursor is located over <u>the one of the items</u>*.

(Emphasis added).

Applicants respectfully assert that *Oran* is legally deficient for the purpose of anticipating claim 21, because at least the features/limitations recited above in claim 21 are not taught or otherwise disclosed by *Oran*. Specifically, claim 21 recites logic configured to display the sub-items of an item in three distinct manners. That is, 1) actuating an input button of a mouse input device as a cursor is located over the one of the items; 2) actuating a virtual button associated with the one of the items; and 3) displaying a first preview window comprising the related sub-item in response to determining that the cursor is located over the one of the items." Notably, the Office Action indicates that, with respect to *Oran*, the recited limitations are met with respect to use of the "Programs" item. <u>However, the "Programs" item is not associated with a virtual button as indicated in the Office Action</u>. Since such a term is well known in the art and Applicants have used the term "virtual button" in accordance with its common and ordinary meaning, Applicants respectfully assert that such an interpretation of the claim language is improper. Therefore, Applicants respectfully assert that claim 21 is in condition for allowance.

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Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103

The Office Action indicates that claim 22 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Oran*. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection. In particular, Applicants respectfully assert that claim 22 is a dependent claim that incorporates the limitations of claim 21, the allowability of which is described above. Since there has been no showing of a reference or combination of references to teach or reasonably suggest the limitations that have been shown to be deficient in *Oran* for rejecting claim 21, Applicants respectfully assert that claim 22 is in condition or allowance.
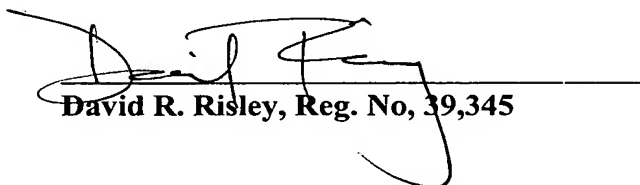
Cited Art of Record

The cited art of record has been considered, but is not believed to affect the patentability of the presently pending claims.

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing amendments and for at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully submit that all objections and/or rejections have been traversed, rendered moot, and/or accommodated, and that the now pending claims are in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application and all pending claims are hereby courteously requested. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (770) 933-9500.

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on _7/20/05_.

Stephanie Riley
Signature